

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 19, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2 and 3 amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-10 are pending and respectfully submitted for consideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 3-7. Claim 3 was rewritten in independent form and is therefore allowable. Claims 4-7 depend from claim 3 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

The Applicant also wishes to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 8-10.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner (U.S. Patent No. 5,346,031) in view of Johansson (U.S. Patent No. 6,543,229).

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner in view of Johansson and Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-310158 to Sakai et al. ("Sakai").

As claim 1 has been canceled and claim 2 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 3, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections are now rendered moot.

Conclusion

As claims 8-10 are allowed and claims 2-7 incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, allowance of claims 2-7 and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 101173-00024.**

Respectfully submitted,



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